

No: 449 /SO FRDC/Watershed/ 16.03.2001.

From: Dr R.S.Tolia  
Principal Secretary & Commissioner  
Forests & Rural Development  
To: Shri B.P. Pandey  
Secretary, Watershed Development & Agriculture

Subject: Inter-Departmental Coordination Task Force for Coordination,  
Monitoring & Project Preparation on Watershed Development

1. On 15 March, 2001 I attended the 5th Meeting of the Project Sanctioning Committee of the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development. In this meeting New Projects for Pithoragarh, costing Rs. 483.12 lakhs, Chamoli for Rs. 410.92 lakhs, Rudrapur Rs. 462.84 lakhs and Tehri Garhwal for Rs. 499.62 lakhs were considered and cleared with certain conditions. The Committee cleared release of First instalments, respectively amounting to Rs. 72.56, Rs. 61.63 and Rs. 69.42 and Rs. 74.94 were cleared. These sanctions are likely to be cleared during this financial year itself. These are presently 100 grant ases but are likely to be reverted to the usual 75:25 assistance mode followed by all other Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Agenda Notes of this meeting are appended and follow-up action has to be mounted at once (Annexure:1). It occurs to me that we have not taken the trouble to access funds, which could be sizeable if small efforts are made to prepare a shelf of project, in advance, in a systematic manner. There also seems to be ample room for accessing considerable amounts of funds from this Department/ Ministry. Accordingly the following arrangements for their Coordination, Monitoring and Project Preparation are made which will be acted upon at once.

**COORDINATION, MONITORING & PROJECT PREPARATION :**

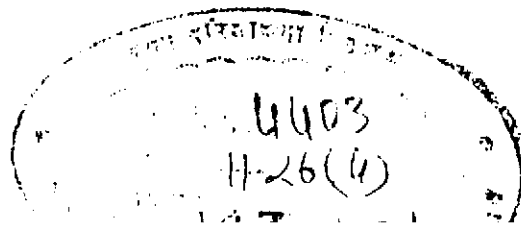
2. A Coordination, Monitoring and Project Preparation Task Force (CMPPTF) is hereby constituted, with immediate effect, as follows:

Secretary, Watershed & Ag & CPD, IWDP  
Project Director, IWDP, Shivalik  
Additional Director, Agriculture

Chairperson  
Member  
Member

Chief Conservator Forests, RVP  
Staff Officer, FRDC & Jt Secy( Watershed)  
Additional Secretary( Forests)&/cLand Survey Directorate

Member  
Member  
Member-Secy



2. This Task Force will be responsible to coordinate all works relating to all Watershed Development Projects, irrespective of its source of funding/assistance.
4. The Office of the Task Force will be located in the present Land Survey Directorate and all the facilities which exist in that office will be placed at its disposal.
5. All Members and Departments within the Forests & Rural Development Commissioner will immediately report the status of all Watershed Development Projects which have been sanctioned in the past, presently under execution and/or presently under consideration of any Funding Agency, Ministry or Department, within Uttaranchal Government or the Central Government. This information shall be provided in the Format prescribed by the Annexure-I. The Committee shall be free to prescribe any other or additional format for reporting, monitoring or project preparation, as the case may be.
6. The Office of this Task Force will require to be strengthened considerably and this strengthening shall be undertaken by pooling of resources which are being received from the various funding sources. However, a separate account shall be kept to account for this pooling from various sources. Additional man-power, which apparently be required, will also be pooled from the participating departments, ensuring that only the best talents available in the participating departments are used for the purpose. The Chairman of the Committee will ensure this and secure FRDC's assistance, wherever required.
7. The First job of the Task Force will be to immediately prepare a STATUS PAPER on all the Watershed Projects which have ever been sanctioned in Uttaranchal, presently under execution and proposed for funding. This will be done Department-wise, further broken-down into District, Watershed, Micro-Watershed wise, for each and every Department. This STATUS PAPER, accompanied with suitable Maps of the Watershed where the projects have been undertaken/are under execution, will also simultaneously highlight the gaps which exist within Uttaranchal, Districts, Blocks and Micro Watershed, for posing to the various funding agencies/Ministries.
8. This STATUS PAPER will be got prepared positively by 31.3.2001 and all necessary information required to do so will be secured through a letter to be issued under signature of Principal Secretary & Commissioner, Forests & Rural Development.
9. All original Sanction Orders will be kept at the respective offices of the participating departments but the Task Force Office shall maintain a copy of each sanction order, arranged District, Watershed and Micro Watershed-wise. A copy each of the Projects submitted by the various executing departments and which have been sanctioned shall also be kept at the Task Force Office. This will be responsibility of the executing agency/department.
10. The main task of the Task Force will be to immediately set in motion the task of preparing a Shelf of Projects for each District, following the Guidelines of the various funding agencies. These Guidelines have to be maintained at the Task Force Office and before submitting any project on Watershed Development to any funding agency, henceforth, it would be mandatory for all the executing agency to

obtain a prior written clearance from this Task Force on Watershed Management Projects. The Task Force, constituted by this Circular, shall also function as the Task Force for clearing Watershed Projects in Uttaranchal.

11. The Ministries and CAPART are also encouraging participation of NGOs in such projects. The Task Force shall extend all possible help to the NGOs who have necessary competence to prepare and execute Watershed Projects and also those who intend to enter this field. It would also be mandatory for all NGOs to obtain Task Force Clearance as is the case for all departments. This is to cross check that no watershed receives more than one project and to ensure that only competent NGOs are sanctioned such projects. It is necessary to mention that the Ministries insist on the State Governments to certify that these conditions have been met by the applicant NGOs.
12. The establishment of the Task Force is also to facilitate the work of the applicant NGOs as they very often have to spend considerable time and money in securing basic informations about the micro watersheds on which they want to work.

#### STATE COMMITTEE ON WATERSHED MANAGEMENT:

13. To oversee and assist the Task Force in its basic objective of quality work in Watershed Development and preparation of a Shelf of Projects for each and every district, fixation of priority at the state level so that uniform assistance and fund flow is ensured for this extremely important programme a State Committee on Watershed Management is also constituted, as under:
14. The SCWM will consist of the following:

Principal Secretary & Commissioner	
Forests & Rural Development	Chairperson
Secretary, Watershed & Ag, CPD, IWDP	Member Secy
Secretary, Forests	Member
Additional Secretary, Agriculture	Member
Additional Secretary, Rural Development	Member
Additional Secretary, Horticulture	Member
Nominated Representative of NGOs	Member

The SCWM shall meet at least once in three months. It will be responsible for the over all policy, guidance, review and monitoring of the work related to Watershed Management and Development in the State.

5. The SCWM will specifically be charged with the responsibility of suggesting ways of mainstreaming watershed management in all development works, increasing involvement of Gram Panchayats and other levels of PRIs into watershed management, coordination amongst various watershed projects and the village level institutions which have been created. From 2001 onwards a clear relationship has to be developed between the various watershed projects on the one hand and Swanajanti Gramin Swarojgar

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Copies: All Members of the Task Force

: All Members of the SCWM

: Staff Officer FRDC & Joint Secy( Watershed) to ensure that the Task Force and the SCWM commences work immediately.

: All District Magistrates

: All Chief Development Officers

: All Heads of Department/Additional Heads of Department, FRDC Branch

: All Section Officers: FRDC Branch



( R.S.TOLIA )

Principal Secretary & Commissioner  
Forests & Rural Development